

Hunter Region Booti Booti National Park Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2008

Sheet 1 of 1

This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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Department of Environment and Climate Change (NPWS) This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 36 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

Endorsed by: John O'Gorman Date: 30/ 6/ 2007

Director Northern Parks & Wildlife Division

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NSW Fire Brigades	Emergency Newcastle Communications (24hr)	000 4929 7177 / (fax) 4927 2380
SES	Emergency On-site Division / Former Unit	000 6554 0716 / (fax) 6554 0776
Police	Emergency Fire and Security Station	000 6555 1299 / (fax) 6555 1222 131 231
Ambulance	Emergency Bookings	000 131 231
Hospital	Forster Hobbsville	6554 6077 4997 4477
DOP	Newcastle	4929 4346 / (fax) 4929 4364 0412 258 320
DPI - Forests	Hunter Region Office Mainland Great Lakes	4931 6519 / (fax) 4933 0772 0429 491 868
Local Council	Forster Lakes Forster (Goosecreek-Forster)	4939 2222 / (fax) 4931 7200 0858 652 663 (AB) 6555 4111
Local Aboriginal Land Council	Kamab (Mull Lakes / Williams River Dungeny)	4997 5733

Resource	Operational Guidelines
Operational Cultural Heritage Site Management	<p>Refer to Current Fire Management Manual (updated annually) Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:</p> <p>Guidelines</p> <p>A1 As far as possible protect site from fire. Do not cut down trees. Use of foam, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable.</p> <p>A2 As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid ground disturbance including handbombs, dozers. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Site may be burnt by wildfire, bushfires, prescribed burns.</p> <p>A3 Avoid ground disturbance including handbombs, dozers. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Site may be burnt by wildfire, bushfires, prescribed burns.</p> <p>Historic Heritage Management</p> <p>H1 High RCHMS priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible. Earth-moving machinery is to be used around, rather than over, the site. High RCHMS priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p>

Risk Management Information

Scale 1:50 000

RISK MANAGEMENT LEGEND

- NPWS Estate
- Roads and Trails
- Primary (Cat 1)
- Secondary (Cat 9)
- Proposed (Cat 9)
- Closed
- Not Classified

Fire Management Zones

The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at Moderate or below.

The objective of SFZAs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practical.

The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.

Locality

Scale: 1:250 000

Index

Scale: 1:250 000

Resource	Operational Guidelines (continued)
Historic Heritage Management (continued)	<p>H2 High RCHMS priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible. Earth-moving machinery is to be used around, rather than over, the site.</p> <p>H3 High or low RCHMS priority. Heritage site unlikely to be affected by fire. Disrupt to any fire crew activity. Avoid site at all costs.</p> <p>H4 Low RCHMS priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. Avoid all water bombing activities.</p> <p>H5 High or low RCHMS priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>H6 High or low RCHMS priority. Heritage site unlikely to be affected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>H7 High or low RCHMS priority. Heritage site unlikely to be affected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p>
Threatened Fauna Management	<p>FA1 Protect large and hollow bearing trees. Prune trees to hollow bearing trees. Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.</p> <p>FA2 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.</p> <p>FA3 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.</p> <p>FA4 Habitat unlikely to be affected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats. Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.</p> <p>FA5 Habitat unlikely to be affected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in dune habitats.</p> <p>FA6 Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible in wetland habitat. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>FA7 Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.</p> <p>FA8 Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible. Avoid use of earth moving machinery.</p>
Threatened Flora Management	<p>FL1 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid the use of earth moving machinery. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible.</p> <p>FL2 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid earth moving machinery. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>FL3 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid earth moving machinery. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>FL4 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid earth moving machinery. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p> <p>FL5 Avoid interference intervals < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid earth moving machinery. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.</p>

Resource	Operational Guidelines
Threatened Property	<p>Refer to Current Fire Management Manual (updated annually) Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:</p> <p>Guidelines</p> <p>Where possible property owners with assets at risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progress of the fire, and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.</p> <p>The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and over-tops. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression efforts should be limited to very specific circumstances. Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations.</p>
Aerial Ignition	<p>Refer to Current Fire Management Manual (updated annually) Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:</p> <p>Guidelines</p> <p>Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Fuel-reducers to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.</p> <p>Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the time to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDI is Very High or greater, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrousarked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down those trees as part of the backburn operation.</p> <p>High intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats. Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.</p>
Backburning	<p>Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the time to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDI is Very High or greater, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrousarked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down those trees as part of the backburn operation.</p> <p>High intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs. Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats. Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.</p>
Command & Control	<p>The first combatant agency on site must assume command of the fire, but then ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly.</p> <p>On the arrival of other combatant agencies, the initial incident commander will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BEMC Plan of Operations.</p>
Containment Lines	<p>NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9</p> <p>Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.</p> <p>Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.</p> <p>All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident.</p> <p>All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.</p>
Smoke Management	<p>NPWS FMM 3.4</p> <p>The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations.</p> <p>If smoke becomes a hazard on local roads or highways, the police and relevant media must be notified.</p> <p>Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines.</p>

Bushfire Suppression

Scale 1:100 000

VEGETATION LEGEND

- NPWS Estate
- Primary (Cat 1)
- Secondary (Cat 9)
- Dry Sclerophyll Communities
- Hardwood Plantation
- Heathland/Sunbush
- Mangrove/Saltmarsh
- Wet Sclerophyll Forest
- Palm Forest
- Riparian Forest
- Sedgeland/Rushland
- Swamp Sclerophyll Forest

VEGETATION

Status of Fire Thresholds

Fire Thresholds

- Overburn:** Fire thresholds have been exceeded. Protect from fire as far as possible.
- Vulnerable:** The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. Protect from fire as far as possible.
- Recently Burnt:** Underburnt indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines. Avoid fire if possible.
- Within Threshold:** Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in the area. A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.
- Almost Underburnt:** The area is close to the threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unburned fires to burn.
- Underburnt:** Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unburned fires to burn.
- Unknown:** Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

BUSHFIRE SUPPRESSION LEGEND

- NPWS Estate
- State Forest
- Recent Fire History
- Roads and Trails
- Assume all gates are locked
- Gate - Security (need key)
- Gate - NPWS
- Gate - non NPWS
- Other Fire Control Advantages
- Water Point Vehicle
- Water Point Helicopter
- Refuge Area
- Helipad
- Turning Point
- Site Management (see Operational Guidelines)
- Aboriginal Site
- Historic Heritage Site
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Flora
- Threatened Property

Suppression Strategies

Current FDR | **Forecast FDR**

Low - Mod | Low - Mod

Low - Mod | -> High

High | All

All | All

Wildfires

Receives of the Hunter Region are located in a zone between subtropical, summer maximum rainfall patterns to the north and temperate, winter maximum patterns to the south. Most extreme fire weather conditions occur during spring and early summer resulting in moderate temperatures, low relative humidity and strong winds. Subtropical rainfall in January usually ends the fire season in most years, however, if rain events do not occur the fire season may last from August to March.

General concern is Autumn to late Winter due to low fire risk and lower ecological impact, however burning is not desirable on a regular basis from a tourism point of view. Burning is possible in early Spring under suitable weather conditions, but is not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view.

Prescribed Burning

General concern is Autumn to late Winter due to low fire risk and lower ecological impact, however burning is not desirable on a regular basis from a tourism point of view. Burning is possible in early Spring under suitable weather conditions, but is not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view.

NOTE:
Booti Booti National Park is formerly known as Booti Booti State Conservation Area and is still shown as such on the following 1:50,000 maps:
Forster 943045
Pacific Palms 94333N